

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT

TERMS OF REFERENCE (to be completed by Hiring Office)	
Hiring Office:	Lao Country Office
Purpose of consultancy:	To provide support to the development process of Out of School Comprehensive Sexuality (OSS CSE) roadmap and advocacy/ outreach strategy for out of school young people in Lao PDR, by conducting KIIs, FGDs and holding discussions with key stakeholders and young people.
Scope of work: <i>(Description of services, activities, or outputs)</i>	<p>Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) is a mountainous, landlocked, sparsely populated country in the heart of South-East Asia. Over half of the population is below the age of 25 years and with over 1.4 million adolescent boys and girls (10-19 years). Lao PDR is well positioned to benefit from the demographic dividend if these young people are educated, empowered and employed decently. However, adolescents and young people face various challenges, such as a high adolescent birth rate (83 births/1000 adolescent girls aged 15-19 years), high rates of early marriage (23.5%) and high school dropout (41.8% of girls and 34.8% of boys aged 15-17 years are out of school). (lao Statistics Bureau, 2018) Child marriage is a prevailing concern in the Lao PDR, ranking the highest in the region. Examination of nationally representative data from Lao PDR has disclosed that among women aged 20–24 who became mothers prior to turning 18, approximately two-thirds experienced conception within the context of a marital union. Along with social-economic growth and modernization, young people of poor communities are particularly at risk of migration in search of better economic opportunities in urban areas. They will face challenges in term of reproductive health, family planning, GBV, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, possibility to enter into sex work, and/or trafficking, due to inadequate information and services. In addition, vulnerable young people, such as young LGBTQIA+ groups, young people who inject drugs, young people living with HIV, young people living with physical or intellectual disabilities and ethnic minorities/indigenous young people are still left behind in terms of CSE access.</p> <p>According to ICPD commitments by the Lao Government at the Nairobi summit to fully integrate CSE into educational curriculum nationwide by 2030. CSE is also reflected in the 9th Education Sector Development Plan (2021-2025) and national youth strategy.</p> <p>United National Population Fund (UNFPA) is implementing Noi-ecosystem approach of programming in collaboration with the government of Laos, especially the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) to provide information on sexual and reproductive health and rights for adolescents and young people in schools and out-of-school settings. Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) is a rights-based and gender-focused approach to sexuality education. CSE has been fully integrated into the primary and partially integrated in secondary, non-formal education, teacher training curricula, and CSE is delivered as stand-alone course in TVET. On the other hand, out of school (OOS) CSE curriculum for adolescents and young people is developed and delivered as outreach sessions and using social media platforms by peer educators for young key populations such as migrants, LGBTQI+ and sex workers (male and female) around the new Laos- Pan-Asia Railway Network railway line in Vientiane Capital and Luangprabang provinces. Linkages will be developed with other initiatives such as youth friendly sexual and reproductive health services, MHPSS helplines and UNFPA's Noi Yakhoo youth Application.</p> <p>Roadmap of the OOS CSE programme will be developed to document key achievements, challenges, lessons learnt and way forward along with a comprehensive advocacy/outreach strategy. This will aid the policy makers, development partners and provincial youth and education departments in taking evidence-based decisions, to scale up out of school CSE for vulnerable young people who are hard to reach. The roadmap will also further include comprehensive guidelines on how to strengthen and duplicate/expand the OOS CSE programme delivery, based on actual needs of out-of-school vulnerable young people. This will be an evidence-based for advocacy and policy dialogue including to be presented at a national conference related to CSE. A national technical resource is required to support and assist the process of development of roadmap and comprehensive advocacy and outreach strategy, by assisting the lead consultant.</p>
Duration and working schedule:	Consultation is for the tenure of 18.75 days, spread over the period of 1 months (October 18 – November 17, 2023)
Place where services are to be delivered:	Vientiane, Lao PDR. The assignment follows a hybrid modality , with regular weekly meetings scheduled with UNFPA Country Office team in person and virtual discussions/ check-ins with the international consultant.

<p>Delivery dates and how work will be delivered (e.g. electronic, hard copy etc.):</p>	<p>The key tasks of the consultant will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate all relevant international documents and guidelines on CSE, training modules/manuals and tools for OOS young people. 2. Review all material available/developed locally by CSOs on CSE for out of school youth/ adolescents. 3. Support the international consultant with the process of development of a roadmap and advocacy/ outreach strategy for the OOS CSE programme, by providing local context. 4. Organise, moderate and manage KIIs, FGDs and meetings/ discussions in person, with the key stakeholders including; NGOs, UNFPA's IPs, Education Departments, National University of Laos – MoES, young people, youth-led organisations - identifying critical needs of out of school young people and ways on how to best approach them. 5. Work in close coordination with the international consultant to receive concrete directions and sharing key insights from the consultations. 6. Develop reports for all the KIIs, FGDs, meetings/ discussions organised and managed, with formatting and designed cover page. <table border="1" data-bbox="475 701 1465 770"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity No.</th> <th>Deliverables</th> <th>Timeline</th> <th>Payment Schedule</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Inception Report – Detailing concrete timeline of the tasks, with background of OOS young people in Laos.</td> <td>October - 20, 2023</td> <td rowspan="3">50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Schedule of Consultations, including; FGDs, KIIs, meetings/ discussions with the policy makers, government officials, NGOs, academia, youth led organization, young people, UNFPA's IPs, development partners etc.</td> <td>October – 26, 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Discussion guide (tool development) for FGD and KIIs.</td> <td>October – 26, 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Draft - One comprehensive report on key findings and recommendations from consultations with OOS young people and key stakeholders.</td> <td>November – 15, 2023</td> <td rowspan="2">50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Final, formatted comprehensive report on key findings and recommendations from consultations with OOS young people and key stakeholders (reflecting inputs from UNFPA/ Lead Consultant)</td> <td>November 17, 2023</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Note: Payment of the assignment is deliverable based and is subject to satisfactory quality deliverables.</i></p> <p>In order to support smooth coordination between UNFPA, national and international consultants, weekly virtual meetings will be scheduled during the tenure of the assignment i.e. from October 20 to November 17, 2023.</p>	Activity No.	Deliverables	Timeline	Payment Schedule	1	Inception Report – Detailing concrete timeline of the tasks, with background of OOS young people in Laos.	October - 20, 2023	50%	2	Schedule of Consultations, including; FGDs, KIIs, meetings/ discussions with the policy makers, government officials, NGOs, academia, youth led organization, young people, UNFPA's IPs, development partners etc.	October – 26, 2023	3	Discussion guide (tool development) for FGD and KIIs.	October – 26, 2023	4	Draft - One comprehensive report on key findings and recommendations from consultations with OOS young people and key stakeholders.	November – 15, 2023	50%	5	Final, formatted comprehensive report on key findings and recommendations from consultations with OOS young people and key stakeholders (reflecting inputs from UNFPA/ Lead Consultant)	November 17, 2023
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<p>monitoring and progress control, including reporting requirements, periodicity format and deadline:</p>	<p>The consultant is expected to work closely with the international consultant and UNFPA Programme Specialist and Programme Analyst for matters related to relevant deliverables and coordination.</p>																					
<p>Supervisory arrangements:</p>	<p>During the course of the assignment, the consultant will work under the immediate supervision of the UNFPA Programme Analyst-CSE.</p>																					
<p>Expected travel:</p>	<p>There is no travel associated with this assignment.</p>																					
<p>Required expertise, qualifications and competencies, including language requirements:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced degree in education, social sciences, public health, policy development and sexual reproductive health • At least three years of work experience in education, with particular emphasis on curriculum development and advocacy/outreach initiatives. 																					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical competency in the areas of education, policy and programmes focusing on out of school young people. • Prior experience of supporting development of education plans/ strategies in informal education sector is an advantage. • Experience working in or familiarity with the education system/ social sector in Lao PDR is an advantage. • Should possess effective communications and drafting skills in national language and English.
Inputs / services to be provided by UNFPA or implementing partner (e.g support services, office space, equipment), if applicable:	The consultant will be expected to have his/her own computer and other equipment needed for this assignment and work remotely, other than then the weekly in person meetings and the consultations he/she is required to manage on their own.
Other relevant information or special conditions, if any:	